

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

IMPROVING LEARNING OUTCOME IN THE COUNTRY

New Delhi, November 26th, 2014

The Government of India reviews teacher vacancy position in States/Union Territories on a regular basis, as well as assists States through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme to appoint new teachers, as per the SSA norms.

The recent United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) report mentions that India would need around 3.6 lakh primary teachers.

The steps taken by the government to improve learning outcome include, inter alia, sanctioning of additional teachers to improve the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), free distribution of textbooks, distribution of two sets of uniforms to all girls and BPL boys @ Rs. 400/- per child per annum, regular annual in-service training to teachers, training of untrained teachers and regular academic support to teachers through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres. The Central government has also supported States/UTs on early grade reading, writing & comprehension, and early mathematics programmes, while at upper primary level support is provided for mathematics and science teaching learning. States have also been assisted to conduct comprehensive external student assessment surveys to assess gaps in student learning, in order to undertake corrective action.

This information was given by Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shri Upendra Kushwaha in a written reply to a Lok Sabha question.

DS/RK/IMPROVING LEARNING OUTCOME